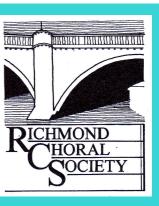
RICHMOND CHORAL SOCIETY

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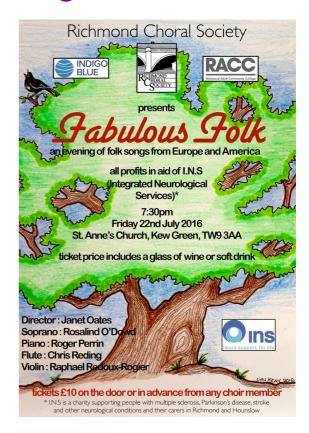


Fabulous success: congratulations!

On 22nd July, a beautiful summer's evening in Kew, Richmond Choral society performed a range of choral arrangements of folk music from across Europe and America. The venue was lovely, with good acoustics; the setting sublime, and we had a lovely large audience. The mayor was complimentary, the audience enthusiastic, and the conductor rather hot! We are all justly proud of this event, and in particular because (taking into account a final collection and gift aid) we managed to raise just over £1900 for INS. This is a great local charity, helping those with brain injury and illness, http://advicerichmond.org.uk/directory/ integrated-neurological-services/

We, and the audience, were very appreciative of our three soloists this term: Rosalind, singing Britten and Copland beautifully, Raphael performing his original works for violin and electronics, and Chris amazing us all with his prestidigitation and flautistic pyrotechnics. Ok, one of those words was made up... Thank you from all of us!

I thought we made a great sound this term – and I was very pleased with our a cappella numbers. We were aided by the acoustics and our lovely bumper singers John and Matthew, and ably supported by our pianist Roger, but also produced by the hard work and concentration of the choir – really well done. Of course, I was most glad to hear these skills put to best use in the pub afterwards for my 'happy birthday'!



We were delighted with the audience numbers this term: there were 140 in the church, about twice our normal number! This success is due to the publicity generated by INS, and the efforts of the choir members, but mostly to the hard work of Rebecca, who not only arranged our venue and sorted out logistics, but also publicised the concert and sold tickets week after week in the church. Well done Rebecca!

My thanks as usual go to all of the choir members who contributed to the term's work - organising, catering, designing, printing and so on. Some extra liaison and other tasks this term were met stoically and creatively! If anyone fancies helping out with publicity (reminding me and RACC to get notices out, thinking of how to disseminate fliers, that sort of thing) please let me know. Thanks as always to Indigo Blue's continuing sponsorship via Jason, which enables the choir to go from strength to strength.



Next Term: A Christmas Celebration.

Concert date: Thursday 15th December in the RACC theatre

Rehearsals: start on September 12th in the theatre.

We will be joined by the chamber choir Cantanti Camerati, and also by the chamber choir of St. James's primary school, Twickenham. We will each have our own musical slot, and then join together for some works.

This year's Christmas event will follow the structure of last year's, which had a lovely ambience and pace to it. We will start with informal works in the foyer while people eat and drink, then move into the theatre for a more formal concert lasting about an hour. I think it will be tremendous! If you would like a full repertoire list please email me; otherwise, the list, with YouTube links and rehearsal aid links, will be given out at the start of term.

Please sign up nice and early, and of course try to recruit new singers (and bring previous members back) - definitely the more the merrier.

Future repertoire

After Christmas, our next two terms' repertoire have been swapped over to avoid a clash with Teddington Choral Society.

Spring 2017: Baroque jewels – this flexible title gives us a free choice of any baroque choral and solo items we're keen to sing! I welcome suggestions (though remember that we can't do 'double choir' works so don't get too ambitious!).

<u>Summer 2017</u>: Elijah (Mendelssohn). We will eventually get to perform this lovely oratorio, which we've been talking about for a couple of years! On September 3rd TCS is holding a vocal workshop day based on Elijah – keep an eye out on their website, http://www.teddingtonchoral.co.uk/

PLUG TIME

The Decibelles Decitastic Christmas partyl



Following the success of last year's summer party, the Decibelles are having a Christmas(ish) party on 26th November in the Basement Door (Vineyard, Richmond). Save the (new) date, and expect audience participation, songs new and old, games and mayhem – retro should always be this much fun! www.decibellesuk.co.uk

Richmond Opera is the new name for Isleworth Baroque: their next production Is Mozart's The Magic Flute, to be performed in Normansfield Theatre on 18th to 20th November. There are still a couple of places left in the chorus If you are interested – see their website for details, and to book tickets.

www.richmondopera.org.uk







Calling all singers!

Rosalind's opera company, Ormond Opera, is putting on Madame Butterfly in November and needs singers to join the Ormond Opera Community Chorus. You would be singing from scores at the back - no acting or memorisation needed. Rehearsals will be on Wednesday evenings and a couple of Sunday afternoons during late September and October. performances are Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th November at Richmond Unitarian Church in Richmond. Please contact Rosalind via hello@ormondopera.co.uk to register your interest. Volunteers for help with front of house, costumes and sets also very welcome! Get involved!